

the first woman to hold that office. Ms. Haines served with the Agency until 2015, at which point she moved to academia and the private sector. She was a senior researcher at Columbia University, a senior fellow at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, and a member of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service.

Avril Haines has all the qualifications we would want for a DNI. But more than that, I believe she is firmly committed to rebuilding the office of the Director of National Intelligence and reestablishing the role of that office as not only the coordinator of our Nation's intelligence community but as an adviser to the President and Congress that will not shy away from telling the hard truths.

Since Ms. Haines was nominated for this role by President Biden, I spent a fair amount of time talking to her about her future as the Director of National Intelligence and the enormous job that she will be taking on.

In our conversations and in her confirmation hearings, Ms. Haines was strong and thoughtful about the future challenges our country will face. My first question to her was about China. Her answer was equally clear-eyed, pointing out the many ways in which China is an adversary to our Nation by stealing IP or hacking our systems and undermining our security, while also pointing out that there are many places where we will have to engage with China as a partner, like on tackling climate change.

She had equally focused answers about the role of Iran as a state sponsor of terror and the need to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

For every question she was asked by my colleagues on the committee, she demonstrated that she understood not only the challenges of the coming future but the IC's role in understanding those issues and meeting them head on.

I have also been impressed from the beginning—and continue to be impressed—by her understanding of the important role of the DNI and the IC and her commitment to making sure that the IC tells policymakers what they need to hear, not only what they want to hear.

The last 4 years have been hard on the intelligence community. You only have to read a newspaper or turn on a TV at some point to know that. Since the 2016 election, the IC has faced false accusations of trying to undermine the then-President and seen many of their leaders fired for simply doing the right thing, speaking truth to power. It should surprise no one that all of this has led to some damage within the IC, particularly to morale.

I believe that Avril Haines is the right nominee to repair this damage. She will support the men and women of the IC and protect them from political pressure. She will insist that they tell us their best analysis and not shy away from telling decision makers that their cherished beliefs are wrong. She will insist on telling truth to power.

Ultimately, this is why I urge my colleagues to send a strong message of support for the men and women of the IC and to support Avril Haines for DNI. She is capable, qualified, and will undertake the serious responsibilities with a clear-eyed sense of promise.

I yield the floor.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON HAINES NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Haines nomination?

Mr. WARNER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 84, nays 10, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 3 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Hassan	Peters
Barrasso	Heinrich	Portman
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Romney
Blunt	Hoeven	Rosen
Booker	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Boozman	Inhofe	Rubio
Burr	Johnson	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaine	Sasse
Capito	Kelly	Schatz
Cardin	Kennedy	Schumer
Carper	King	Scott (FL)
Casey	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cassidy	Lankford	Shelby
Collins	Leahy	Sinema
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cornyn	Lummis	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Sullivan
Cotton	Markey	Tester
Cramer	McConnell	Thune
Daines	Menendez	Tuberville
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Moran	Warner
Feinstein	Murkowski	Warnock
Fischer	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Wicker
Graham	Ossoff	Wyden
Grassley	Padilla	Young

NAYS—10

Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Cruz	Lee	
Ernst	Marshall	

NOT VOTING—6

Brown	Scott (SC)	Toomey
Crapo	Tillis	Whitehouse

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid

upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Maryland.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

OPENING DAY OF IOWA LEGISLATURE'S 89TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on January 11, I had the honor of administering the oath of office to Iowa's speaker of the house, Patrick Grassley, who also happens to be my grandson. It was a privilege for me and my family to participate in the opening day of the Iowa Legislature's 89th General Assembly. Pat has represented the people of house district 50 since 2007. He is in his second year serving his caucus as speaker.

In addition to celebrating Pat's professional accomplishments, we were also moved by the prayer that was written and shared by our great granddaughter Reagan, alongside her siblings Indee and Chance, as the legislature convened.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of Reagan's prayer be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

She is 11 years old. Barbara and I are truly blessed to spend memorable days like this one together as a family.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF IOWA HOUSE JOURNAL

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021

First Calendar Day—First Session Day

Hall of the House of Representatives

Des Moines, Iowa, Monday, January 11, 2021

Pursuant to chapter two (2), sections two point one (2.1) and two point three (2.3), Code of Iowa, the House of Representatives of the Eighty-ninth General Assembly of Iowa, 2021 Regular Session, convened at 10:03 a.m., Monday, January 11, 2021.

The House was called to order by the Honorable John Wills, state representative from Dickinson County.

Prayer was offered by Reagan Grassley. She is the daughter of Speaker Grassley.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for bringing us here today.

Thank you for giving these leaders the opportunity to not only serve the state of Iowa, but to serve you.

You are a good father who promises beauty for ashes and joy for our sadness, but we are hurting Father. This world is hurting. We pray that we can learn to love ourselves, and others in this room, more like you.

In a broken world these truths remain: you are pain taker, a way maker, and a chain breaker.